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No 20

Sir

Vincennes April 23d 1813

I have just received your letter and return from the Portage; while the Executive of the Territory I felt much anxiety for the completion of the Fortification you are engaged in erecting as well as every measure affecting the interest of the Territory especially those for its safety and defence; as an individual I still feel a [illegible] solicitude on that subject; I am extremely gratified to learn that you have progressed so well and that your command has done themselves honor by their diligence to persons there valuable and interesting

Mr Bates is here now and will be sent up to you as one [illegible] as to further objects. I should be happy if circum-stances would allow to visit you before you leave the Island

Your friend

Benjn Howard

Major James Morrison

Esqr — Ashland town Pa Mo